IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a business rules based application comprising:

providing a set of wizards selectable by a user;

selecting at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

providing a set of verbs selectable by the user;

selecting at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; and

~~arranging~~ assigning a child status or next status for each of the actions ~~the number of actions~~ in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the number of actions in the application.

28. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 27, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.

29. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

specifying actions to construct the business rules based application and actions to operate on data during execution of the business rules based application.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 27, wherein the actions include conditional actions.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

stepping through the number of actions to debug the business rules based application.

Claims 32-41   (Canceled)

42.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions, which when executed by a processor, performs a method for constructing a business rules based application comprising:

providing a set of wizards selectable by a user;

selecting at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

providing a set of verbs selectable by the user;

selecting at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; and

~~arranging the number of actions~~assigning a child status or next status to each of the actions in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the number of actions in the application.

43.   (Previously Presented)   The medium according to claim 42, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.

44.   (Previously Presented)   The medium according to claim 42, further comprising:

specifying actions to construct the business rules based application and actions to operate on data during execution of the business rules based application.

45.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 42, wherein the actions include conditional actions.

46.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 42, further comprising:

stepping through the number of actions to debug the business rules based application.

Claims 47-56 (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for constructing a business rules based application comprising a processor programmed to:

provide a set of wizards selectable by a user;

select at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

provide a set of verbs selectable by the user;

select at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; ~~and~~

~~arrange the number of~~assign a child status or next status to each of the actions ~~actions~~ in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the number of actions in the application.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the processor is further programmed to:

specify actions to construct the business rules based
application and actions to operate on data during execution of
the business rules based application.

60. (Previously Presented)   The apparatus according
to claim 57, wherein the actions include conditional actions.

61. (Previously Presented)   The apparatus according
to claim 57, wherein the processor is further programmed to:

step through the number of actions to debug the business
rules based application.

62. (New)   The method according to claim 27,
wherein the assigning comprises modifying the child status or
next status selected during construction of the business rules
based application.

63. (New)   The computer readable medium according
to claim 42, wherein the assigning instruction comprises
modifying the child status or next status selected during
construction of the business rules based application.

64. (New)   The apparatus according to claim 57,
wherein the processor is further programmed to modify the child
status or next status selected during construction of the
business rules based application.

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